

COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD ADVANCE
MINUTES

July 13, 2011

Present: Awichu Akwayna, Denise Reed, Adriana Paulson, Rebecca Baez, Ana Briones-Espinoza, Filipa Rios, Keith Stevenson, Jasmin Kirkland, and Jeannine Nash

Excused: Margie de Ruyter

Absent: Nelson Leone, Sonia Ruiz, Scott Suckow, Paul Moose

Staff: Sylvia Melena, Juana S. Duenas, Corinne M. Rodriguez

Guests: Eduardo Ruiz, Katelin Weisser, Wanda Drummond
San Diego State University students

Call to Order: (Ana Briones-Espinoza – Chair) **5:34 P.M.**
Roll Call:
Roundtable - Introductions

Acceptance of Agenda
Moved: Adriana Paulson Second: Keith Stevenson

Approval of Minutes
• May 11, 2011 and Ratifying April 13, 2011 Minutes
Moved: Rebecca Baez Second: Awichu Akwayna Unanimous

Action Items: Nominating Committee Recommendations:
• CAB discussion and vote to recommend Ann Durham for the Economically Disadvantaged Sector in East Region
Moved: Adriana Paulson Second: Rebecca Baez Unanimous
• CAB nomination and vote for and Mark Tran for the Economically Disadvantaged Sector in Central Region / Alternate (interview pending).

Handouts: • San Diego Community Action Partnership Newsletter

Presentations: None

Discussion: CAB Vacancies
✓ Board voted to recommend the appointment of Ann Durham to Economically Disadvantaged Sector in East Region. She will be included in Board Letter for official Board of Supervisors (BOS) appointment in September 2011.
✓ Mark Tran submitted application for the Economically Disadvantaged Sector in Central Region/Alternate (interview pending).
✓ Marsha McKay's application for East County/Public Sector pending BOS review. CAP staff will follow up with Clerk of the Board.
✓ Filipa Rios' official letter of appointment was received. She will represent North Coastal/Public Sector.
✓ Current Board members whose terms expired will need new confirmation from the BOS to serve another term. Two members already served two terms and will need to re-apply as new members.

- Nelson Leon - Second Term
- Sonia Ruiz – Second Term
- Rebecca Baez – Needs application
- Jasmin Kirkland – Second Term
- Keith Stevenson – New Application

- ✓ New CAB vacancy in Public Sector - District 5/Bill Horn - North Inland/Public Sector to fill after John Salazar whose term expired when Supervisor Horn was re-appointed to a new 4-year term.
- ✓ State Audit finding prompted a monthly memo be sent to CSD regarding CAB's outreach activities and the status of vacancies.

SDSU Guests

- Upper Division Social Services pending placements in the fall. Here to observe meeting and to begin to familiarize themselves about community organizations.
- CAP Staff will forward information regarding interns/volunteers for EITC/THRIVE to students.

Public Media/Outreach

- AD HOC Committee: Ana Briones-Espinoza (Chair), Jeannine Nash, Rebecca Baez and Sonia Ruiz.
 - No report from Ms. Briones.
 - Virtual meeting to be scheduled.
 - Ms. Briones to provide a status report on progress at next CAB Meeting.

CAB Retreat

- Friday, September 16th from 12 noon to 4:30 p.m.
- Venue: Must be secured (by whom?).
- Regular CAB Agenda at beginning of meeting and then Retreat Agenda.
- Chair will develop priorities and focus for year. A simple fact sheet that is part of priority setting with Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) Director.
- Opportunity to look at programs (what are the potential gaps and suggestions on how to fill those gaps).
- Thrive - United Way and Wal-Mart PowerPoint video can be shown.

Director's Report:

Sylvia Melena

✓ THRIVE SAN DIEGO INITIATIVE UPDATE

Background

Since the San Diego County Board of Supervisors approved the THRIVE San Diego Initiative in 2009. The partnership between HHSA, United Way, 2-1-1 San Diego, and other community partners has:

- Established Academic Partnerships with colleges and universities, such as San Diego State University, Cal State San Marcos, and Southwestern College,
- Secured funding for the THRIVE Coordinator position, which is primarily responsible for coordinating efforts with colleges and universities to provide internships and volunteer opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students,
- Secured funding for 8 – 10 student interns to serve as tax preparation site coordinators,
- Strengthened and increased participation in the EITC Coalition, and
- Built capacity for EITC Coalition member agencies to provide access to benefits and other resources.

2011 San Diego County wide EITC Coalition Results

- 85 sites participated
 - 37 VITA sites
 - 48 AARP sites
- Increase in total state and federal returns by 4, 577 returns (to 43, 177)
 - Total federal returns – 22,022
 - Total state returns – 21,155
- Earned Income Tax Credit
 - 5,244 eligible taxpayers claimed the credit
 - Increase of 601 taxpayers claiming the credit
 - Total EITC dollars claimed totaled \$8,191,536
 - Increase in dollars claimed totaled \$994,407
- Total federal refunds was \$25,096,388
 - Increase of \$3,288,558

Benefits Screening

- 14 of larger tax preparation sites participated in benefits screening using SS-CALC (screening tool) which

allows screening of CalWORKs, CalFresh, Medi-Cal, High Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) and many other resources and programs for low-income families.

- Benefits Screening Results
 - Total screened – 1,752 (25% of total tax clients)
 - Potential eligibility:
 - ✓ CalFresh – 62% (1099)
 - ✓ WIC – 14% (243)
 - ✓ Medi-Cal – 34% (600)
 - ✓ Healthy Families – 23% (236)
 - ✓ CalWORKs – 18% (310)
 - ✓ Head Start – 16% (276)
 - ✓ Child Care – 29% (513)

Juana Duenas added the following information regarding the Volunteer Tax Preparation Sites (VITA) sites:

- Interns/volunteers provide pre-screening assessments.
- Financial Literacy offered on site or client is given a referral or appointment for later date with one of the FSS provider agencies. Financial literacy education is offered as a component of the FSS program as part of Asset Enhancement education with other FSS services.
- The THRIVE initiative uses the EITC Tax Preparation as an opportunity to offer access to benefits and asset building education to teach low-income families new ways of managing their income. One of the future goals for the Thrive Initiative is to bring on board banking institutions to form a banking coalition to strengthen the savings capacity among low-income wage earners.

CAP Website

Action Items:

- CAB members discussed possibilities for use of CAP's website to advertise events. In addition, it was mentioned the use of technology to leverage social media, texting, etc.
- CAP Staff will send EITC/Thrive information to SDSU students.
- CAP staff will invite Teresa Smith (Thrive Coordinator) to present at next CAB meeting. She will be asked to include the YouTube video from United Way as part of her presentation.
- CAP Staff will provide support to CAB Chair to develop agenda for September retreat.

CAB Member's Reports:

- Jasmin Kirkland – Gang Intervention Community Forum/Discussion/Barbeque at Memorial Park on Saturday, July 16th. San Diego Council on Aging will be held on September 1st, to help seniors with financial planning, Medi-Cal changes and veterans' benefits.
- Keith Stevenson – Free athletic physicals for youth will be provided at Kaiser Permanent at the Clairemont Mesa hospital on July 16th. Mr. Stevenson will e-mail information to CAB members.
- Filipa Rios – First Homeless Connect event will be held in North County sometime in November 2011. This is one-day event with resources at one venue for the homeless.

Announcements:

NONE

Adjournment:

7:07 PM

Moved: Rebecca Baez

Second: Awichu Akwayna

Approved by Consensus

Minutes approved by:

Ana Briones-Espinoza, Chair

Date